

# THE RALEIGH NEWS.

VOL. XVI.—103

State Library, 10th St. S. E., BALEIGH, N. C., TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1880.

\$5.00 PER ANNUM

## THE CAROLINA BLACKS.

### DOING FROM FEVER AND WANT OF FOOD.

A Visit to the Miserable Quarters of the Immigrants—Half Starved and Poorly Clad.

Indianapolis Sentinel.

It is a well-known fact that a large portion of the negro immigrants from North Carolina are sick with scarlet fever or diphtheria. The large number of negroes who arrived yesterday can only add to their misery, and now the half-starved, poorly clad and desolate people, with miserable shelter, rude benches for beds and coffee sacks for cover, begin to realize the serious outlook, and their consultations are full of sad meaning.

This was the condition a reporter of the *Sentinel* found these people in yesterday when he entered their headquarters in different parts of the city. Their lodgings were in old and dilapidated buildings, the walls black and dirty from age. In each hovel the majority were sick with malignant diseases which, together with the occasional deaths of one of the afflicted, presented a scene hard to describe. It is remembered that besides this sickness they are unprovided for—no food, no fuel, no clothing.

### THE FIRST CALL.

On the corner of Pratt and California streets the reporter found an old weather-worn house. There was but a single window and a broken door, which hung by one hinge. There were two beds, one with a like number of benches and a sofa. There was no fire, but huddled around the cold and broken stove were thirteen negroes. They were an ugly set, for cold and hunger had made them so. They were very reticent at first, but, when asked, their story was short and sad.

### How many are there sick?" asked the reporter.

"Three," was the answer that came from a woman, nearly dead, as she lay stretched out on a bench.

### WINTER.

"Diphtheria?"

"No scarlet fever?"

"The doctor says one case."

For a quarter of an hour such questions were asked and answered. It was soon ascertained that one poor woman had

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last, and that there were three very sick. These were Lizzie Barber, Sarah Woods and Maria Patterson.

The children of whom there were six, were complaining of their throats, and showed symptoms of scarlet fever.

The woman further said that little provisions had been furnished them, and she could not see how they could survive through the winter. As the reporter left and addressed another, which had neither lock nor bolt, he could not help thinking that all the sweet odors of night could not take from those obscure, miasmic corners faint signs of mortality. It was a poorly-stricken place, if ever there was one, and thirteen persons grouped about waiting for aid. This much is what it costs to be acculturated to Western life.

### MORE DISTRESS.

Proceeding east North Mississippi street, the reporter was met by a big, black negro. He, like those of his race mentioned above, was a little afraid to talk, and it became necessary for the reporter to change his tactics. "I am from the city of Memphis," the reporter said. "This is a poor, old, effect, and matters something about 'Free Passeney,'" the negro replied. "He was not satisfied, and turning said:

### "I say you do, Thompson?"

"Hardly," the reporter answered, and passed through this small and inconvenient hospital. This had two rooms, a common kitchen. They were not to exceed eight by twelve feet, and here were stored twelve negro men, women and children. This place was very disagreeable, and the rooms nauseating, for all were sick save four, and those "Dr. Thompson" had said, the negro continued, were likely to be taken with the fever.

### THREE DEATHS.

Three had died in this miserable den in less than six days, and the burial certificates at the undertaker's read "Scarlet fever."

The people in the vicinity are greatly alarmed, and fear for their children, who, they apprehend, will be taken with the fever. The negroes are numerous, but the negroes can not be removed. The people who put them there must be responsible for the spread of these contagious diseases.

### THE NAMES.

In order to get the number of deaths among these people, the reporter visited J. H. Russell & Co., county undertakers, to whom he was referred by Township Trustee King. Mr. Russell will give the information, and his assistant, Mr. Nesbeth, who had charge of the burial. Mr. Nesbeth said that on Friday he buried Mary E. Lucas, W. H. Hines, Mrs. Lucas and John T. Smock. Four others had died and were buried since the interment of those three. He was unable to find the certificates. Mr. Nesbeth says he never saw such misery as he found in these hovels. Nearly all were sick and dying, and those fortunate enough to be well had nothing to eat.

### THE TRUSTEE TRUSTEE.

Lord Russell, the Russian commander of the gun boat Vesta, during the Russian War, who was court martialled and dismissed from the service for making use of insulting language in reference to the ministry of Marine, has been promoted to the rank of captain. He is now a member of the Senate, and in their public service has been called the "Red Devil." He is a distinguished jurist. Dr. Pedro Calderon, President Pedro has died. He arrived at Panama December 27th. The Peruvian torpedo boat which sailed in November from Panama under Hawaiian colors, has been captured by the Chilianas.

made to have her removed to the City WHY THEY CAME.

During the conversation held with the negroes, the *Sentinel* commissioners referred to the cause of their coming to this State. One man, who came from Bunt's plantation, said that he was told that he would get a good salary and plenty of work, and that those with whom he arranged to come to Indiana had explicitly said that he should vote the Republican ticket, which he has always voted and proposed to vote.

In this connection it may be said that Dr. S. A. Elbert has an order from Mr. McKay, authorizing him to collect money for the immigrants. Just why the Republicans and office-seekers are so energetic is a mystery, and they begin to realize the serious outlook, and their consultations are full of sad meaning.

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It is the lawyers, after all, who rule this glorious country of ours. The Senate of the United States consists of seventy-six members, and of this number fifty-nine are practicing lawyers. Of the two hundred and ninety-three members of the House of Representatives, two hundred and nineteen are lawyers. The President and Vice President of the United States are lawyers, and nearly all the government departments are headed and directed by the same profession. In the Senate, especially among the Senators themselves, each member's ability is gauged by his rank as a lawyer. When the status of an incoming Senator is under discussion, the remark is very frequently made: "He is a very good lawyer, and a good senator." Because the man is a good lawyer is not the same as being a first-class statesman. Why the people of the United States give such preference to the profession of the law in selecting their legislators and rulers is a problem that cannot be answered. In the Senate there is only one physician, and in the House there are but two. There are among the Senators eight business men or merchants, one doctor, one editor, two planters, two farmers, one banker, one more owner and operator, and one of no professional business.

Engone Sloan, formerly of the Marshall (Tex.) *Herold*, has committed suicide.

Miss Florence Davis, aged seventeen years, daughter of Hon. J. F. Davis, of Waco, Tex., while carelessly handing a pistol shot herself through the heart, causing instant death.

### REBURGENTS AT BIRMINGHAM.

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